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CHAMBERMAIDS.
AN ESSAY BY MARK TWAIN.

Against all chambermaids, of whatsoever
age or nationality, I launch the curse of Bache-
lordom!

Because:—
They always put the pillows at the opposite
end of the bed from the gas burner, so that
while you read and smoke before sleeping, (as
is the ancient and honored custom of bache-
lors), you have to hold your book aloft in an
uncomfortable position, to keep the light from
dazzling your eyes.

When they find the pillows removed to the
other end of the bed in the morning, they re-
ceive not the suggestion in a friendly spirit,
but gloating in their absolute sovereignty and
unperturbed by helplessness, they make the
bed just as it was originally, and gloat in tri-
umphant over the pangs their tyranny will cause
you.

Always after that, when they find you have
transposed the pillows, they undo your work
and thus defy you, and seek to embitter the
life that God hath given you.

If they cannot get the light in an inconve-
nient position in any other way, they move the
bed.

If you pull your trunk out six inches from
the wall, so that the lid will stay up when you
open it, they always about that trunk back again.
They do it on purpose.

If you want the spittoon in a certain spot,
where it will be handy, they do not. And so
they move it.

They always put your other boots in some
inconvenient place. They chiefly enjoy depositing
them as far under the bed as the wall will per-
mit. It is because this compels you to get
down in an undignified attitude, and make
wild sweeps for them in the dark with the
bootjack, and swear.

They always put the match box in some
other place. They hunt up a new place for it
every day; and put a bottle or other perishable
thing, where the box was before. This is
to cause you to break that glass thing, groping
in the dark, and get yourself into trouble.

They are forever and ever moving the furniture.
When you come in, in the night, you can
calculate on finding the bureau where the
wardrobe was in the morning; if you leave the
slop bucket by the door and the rocking chair
by the window, when you come in at midnight,
or thereabout, you will find the rocking
chair, and you will proceed to the window and
sit down in the slop tub. They like that.

No matter where you put anything, they are
not going to let it stay there. They will take it
and move it the first chance they get. It is
their nature. And besides, it gives them
pleasure to be mean and contrary this way.

They would die if they couldn't be villains.
They always save up all the old scraps of
printed rubbish you throw on the floor, and
stack them up carefully on the table, and then
start the fire with your valuable manuscripts.
If there is any one particular old scrap that
you are more down on than any other, and
which you are gradually wearing your life out
trying to get rid of, you may take all pains
you possibly can in that direction, but it won't
be of any use, because they will always fetch
that old scrap back and put it in the same
place again every time. It does them good.

And they use more hair oil than any six
men. If charged with purloining the same,
they lie about it. What to they care about a
hereafter? Absolutely nothing.

They keep always coming to make up your
bed before you get up, thus destroying your
rest and inflicting agony upon you, but after
you get up they don't come any more until
the next day.

They do all the mean things they can think
of, and they do them out of pure cussedness,
and nothing else.

I have cursed them in behalf of outraged
Bachelordom. They deserved it. If I can
get a bill through the next Legislature abol-
ishing chambermaids I mean to do it.

THE HOUSE OF THE RHINOCEROS.—During
the heat of the day the rhinoceros withdraws
into the thickest and most retired part of the
jungle, where he indulges in his siesta most
after the fashion of a fat Berkshire hog. On
the outside of the jungle the hunter will prob-
ably perceive an opening, well worn by the
feet of these animals. If he follows it up he
will find the track gradually growing narrower
and narrower, the farther he penetrates in the
jungle. It is rather touchy work, for, as said,
the passage not only becomes narrower and
narrower, but the sides form an impenetrable
wall on either side, from the compact net work
of the gigantic and formidable creepers that
cling them.

Very little air can penetrate, and the light
is very dim, so that great caution is required,
for should "rhino" be at home, he will be sure
to welcome his visit with a furious charge,
whose chance of avoiding such a reception, by
deviating either to the right or left, is infinite
small. But let us suppose no such con-
tingency to occur. After proceeding some fifty
or sixty yards, the hunter will find himself in
the "house" of the rhinoceros which is always
situated in the very densest part of the jungle.
The dimensions of the "house" may be twelve
or thirteen feet square, by about six in height.
Perfect cleanliness rules there: not a particle
of dirt will be found in it.

Added to this, the rhinoceros has a great
idea of comfort—in other words being able to
enjoy a good scratch. A convenient bough
will probably be seen to project in an inviting
manner, against which our thick skinned friend
delights to rub himself. As soon as the eyes
of the intruder gets accustomed to the dim,
murky light within, he will have the satisfac-
tion of seeing the impression of the rhinoceros'
body on the alluvial soil, showing the place
where last he lay. Had the brute been
"at home," and had the visitor's shoes been
noiseless and the wind favorable he might per-
haps even have caught a glimpse of him as he
lay fast asleep on his side, blowing like a
wherry steam engine.

Occasionally a smaller chamber is attached to
the "house" proper, but whether it be used as
a "boudoir" for "madame," or as a nursery
for the "children" is unknown. They feed in
the early morning and late evening. Their
favorite provender appears to be the young
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repair to the river for a bath. They approach
the water with great caution, from fear of be-
ing taken at a disadvantage. When they have
ascertained that all is safe, they go in with a
mighty rush, and roll and wallow about to their
heart's content.

FOR SALE OR RENT.

FOR SALE OR RENT.—Those two fine
BRICK DWELLINGS, Nos. 95 and 97
south Washington street, near Wolfe, contain-
ing seven rooms each. Gas and Water. Terms
easy. Apply to **IGNATZ RAMMEL,**
oct 1w Corner King and Royal streets.

FOR RENT.—A new and neatly finished
STORE ROOM and WARE ROOM. Also
a small DWELLING, at Three Mile or Mel-
rose station, Warrenton Branch, a fine stand
for a large country business. Address,
CASSIUS CARTER,
Melrose station, Warrenton Branch,
Fauquier county, Va., sep 28—eotf

FOR RENT.—The three-story BRICK
DWELLING HOUSE, No. 44 S. Wash-
ington street, in good order. Possession given
October 1st, 1870. (Dr. Lockerman has moved
his office to the corner of Washington and
Prince streets.)

The large BRICK DWELLING
HOUSE, No. 58 corner Washington and
Queen streets. This house is for sale or rent.—
Possession given October 1st, 1870.

FOR RENT.—The new and convenient
STORE ROOM in German's building, No.
141 King street, is for rent. Apply to **M. GER-
MAN,** next door. sep 8—tf

FOR RENT.—That large and com-
modious STORE, No. 63 King street, at
present occupied by Chas. W. Green. Posses-
sion given Nov. 12, 1870. **WM. N. BROWN.**
sep 8—eotf

FOR SALE.—Three FRAME HOUSES,
containing six rooms each, situated on the
water front, about sixty ft. north
of Gibbes. Persons wanting property that will
pay a handsome interest will find this a good
investment. For particulars apply to
WM. COGAN,
jy 12—eotf No. 15 North Royal street.

DRY GOODS.

WILLIAM MURRAY,

MERCHANT TAILOR,
NO. 7 NORTH FAIRFAX STREET.
Has just received his
FALL AND WINTER ASSORTMENT OF
CLOTHS,
CASSIMERES, AND VESTINGS.

He invites his friends and customers to call
and examine his stock. sep 24—tf

J. L. GRIGG,

MERCHANT TAILOR,
86 King street.
Has opened a full line of first class goods for
Fall and Winter wear, consisting of
FRENCH AND
ENGLISH CLOTHS, CASSIMERES AND
VESTINGS.

Imported expressly for the trade, to which he
invites attention. aug 30—eotf

GEO. W. HARPER,

MERCHANT TAILOR,
NO. 10 SOUTH ROYAL STREET.
Has just received his FALL SUPPLY
of the best makes of
ENGLISH AND FRENCH CLOTHS,
CASSIMERES AND VESTINGS,
the quality and style of which cannot be sur-
passed, and most respectfully solicits an exami-
nation. sep 15—eotf

FLANNELS, &c.

20 pieces Bleached and Unbleached Canton
Flannels, Red, White and Blue Woolen Flan-
nels. These goods very cheap.
sep 24—tf **WM. N. BARKLEY.**

WM. N. BARKLEY,

NO. 64 KING STREET.
Has just opened a large and well selected
stock of seasonable
DRESS GOODS,
to which he invites his friends and all wanting
good and cheap goods to give him a call.
A very desirable assortment of goods for
GENTLEMEN'S WEAR.
Also DRESS GOODS for ladies. Call early.
sep 24—tf

WATER PROOF CLOTH.

Just opened Black Mixed Gold Mixed and
Black and Gold-Striped. We have suits or
pieces made of these goods to order.
sep 24 **ROBT. L. WOOD.**

GENTLEMEN would do well to look at our
bed before you get up, thus destroying your
rest and inflicting agony upon you, but after
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a "boudoir" for "madame," or as a nursery
for the "children" is unknown. They feed in
the early morning and late evening. Their
favorite provender appears to be the young
shoots and succulent twigs of the trees and
shrubs. When the sun has gone down, they
repair to the river for a bath. They approach
the water with great caution, from fear of be-
ing taken at a disadvantage. When they have
ascertained that all is safe, they go in with a
mighty rush, and roll and wallow about to their
heart's content.

THE HOUSE OF THE RHINOCEROS.—During
the heat of the day the rhinoceros withdraws
into the thickest and most retired part of the
jungle, where he indulges in his siesta most
after the fashion of a fat Berkshire hog. On
the outside of the jungle the hunter will prob-
ably perceive an opening, well worn by the
feet of these animals. If he follows it up he
will find the track gradually growing narrower
and narrower, the farther he penetrates in the
jungle. It is rather touchy work, for, as said,
the passage not only becomes narrower and
narrower, but the sides form an impenetrable
wall on either side, from the compact net work
of the gigantic and formidable creepers that
cling them.

Very little air can penetrate, and the light
is very dim, so that great caution is required,
for should "rhino" be at home, he will be sure
to welcome his visit with a furious charge,
whose chance of avoiding such a reception, by
deviating either to the right or left, is infinite
small. But let us suppose no such con-
tingency to occur. After proceeding some fifty
or sixty yards, the hunter will find himself in
the "house" of the rhinoceros which is always
situated in the very densest part of the jungle.
The dimensions of the "house" may be twelve
or thirteen feet square, by about six in height.
Perfect cleanliness rules there: not a particle
of dirt will be found in it.

Added to this, the rhinoceros has a great
idea of comfort—in other words being able to
enjoy a good scratch. A convenient bough
will probably be seen to project in an inviting
manner, against which our thick skinned friend
delights to rub himself. As soon as the eyes
of the intruder gets accustomed to the dim,
murky light within, he will have the satisfac-
tion of seeing the impression of the rhinoceros'
body on the alluvial soil, showing the place
where last he lay. Had the brute been
"at home," and had the visitor's shoes been
noiseless and the wind favorable he might per-
haps even have caught a glimpse of him as he
lay fast asleep on his side, blowing like a
wherry steam engine.

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